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PPB 66-0139

06C66-0434

24 FEB 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

SUBJECT : Funding of the Printing Services Building

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1. With reference to the attached memorandum from the Director of Logistics to the Deputy Director for Support, we note that [REDACTED] of your Office has written a "no legal objections" endorsement on the memorandum. It occurs to us, however, that a bit more detail would be of value, should this matter be subjected to GAO scrutiny in the future.
 2. Specifically, we want to be absolutely sure that the splitting of this construction into two phases as proposed is entirely defensible from the authority point of view. Since both phases of work are part of the same contract, apparently the GAO will audit all of the contract. This raises the question as to whether the original authorizing statute constituted a ceiling on the amount of money that could be expended for Headquarters construction or merely indicated that monies appropriated under it could be expended for construction and nothing else.
 3. The above issue may not be determinative, of course. For transcending it could be a finding that Phase II is not really part of the basic building construction and, therefore, not under any legislative authorization ceiling. If this is correct, our apprehensions become nonexistent.
 4. In light of the above, we request that you send a memorandum which we can retain in our files indicating that it is your firm legal opinion that the proposed construction of the Printing Services Building under the terms and arrangements detailed in the attached letter in no way conflict with authorities granted by Congress.

(signed) John M. Clarke

John M. Clarke
Director of Planning,
Programming, and Budgeting

Attachment